

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RANGOO 03550 230837Z

12

ACTION H-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-07 ISO-00 EA-06 NSC-05 NSCE-00 RSC-01 /021 W

----- 012383

R 230805Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8956

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

DEA HQS WASHDC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N I A L RANGOON 3550

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (LESTER WOLFF)

SUBJECT: CODEL WOLFF

REF: BANGKOK 19784 AND STATE 279661

1. WE OF COURSE CONCUR COMPLETELY IN REFTEL A ASSESSMENT OF HARM THAT WOULD BE DONE TO US-GUB RELATIONS IF US WERE TO ADOPT OR EVEN SERIOUSLY CONSIDER SSA OPIUM AND HEROIN SUPPRESSION SCHEME. WE ASSUME THAT THERE IS NO CHANCE WHATSOEVER OF THE US GOVERNMENT IDENTIFYING ITSELF WITH THE SSA SCHEME.

2. APART FROM USG INVOLVEMENT, WHICH WE ASSUME TO BE COMPLETELY OUT OF THE QUESTION, WE WOULD HOPE THAT CONGRESSMAN WOLFF CAN REFRAIN FROM IDENTIFYING HIMSELF EVEN AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN WITH THIS ANTI-GUB INSURGENCY. AS WE HAVE HAD OCCASION TO NOTE RECENTLY, BURMESE SUSPICIONS OF US INVOLVEMENT WITH BORDER REBELS ARE EASILY INFLAMED, GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCE OF THE APPARENT US ORIGIN OF MUCH OF THE ARMS THE REBELS USE. NE WIN IS JUST BARELY ABLE TO BELIEVE THAT THE USG DOES NOT CONTROL THE ACTIONS OF ITS LAO AND THAI ALLIES OR ITS PRIVATE CITIZENS. IF CONGRESSMAN
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PAGE 02 RANGOO 03550 230837Z

WOLFF'S MANEUVERS WITH THE SSA COME TO HIS ATTENTION, AS THEY

SURELY MUST, OUR EX POST FACTO EXPLANATIONS WOULD NOT CARRY MUCH CONVICTION.

3. IF WOLFF DOES INVOLVE HIMSELF FURTHER WITH THE SSA SCHEME, WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT BE PREPARED TO PUBLISH A VERY STRONG DISAVOWAL OF WOLFF'S MANEUVERS, AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE AFTER HE STARTS THEM. I WOULD HOPE ALSO TO BE INSTRUCTED TO BRING OUR DISAVOWAL DIRECTLY TO THE ATTENTION OF THE HIGHEST AVAILABLE LEVEL OF THE GUB. AN EQUALLY PROMPT DISAVOWAL BY RTG WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL.
OSBORN

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NNN

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